

Lesson 7 – Reporting

Page 1

This lesson will review Reporting procedures.

Upon completion of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Identify the various forms for reporting emissions inventory data,
- Describe the Toxic Release Inventory,
- Describe the National Emissions Inventory, and
- Describe the Consolidated Emission Reporting Rule.

Page 2

Overview

The final phase in developing an emissions inventory is the presentation of the data which have been collected, compiled, and analyzed. The data can be presented in a variety of forms, from unorganized raw data listings to aggregate summary reports. Generally, the form in which the data will be presented is determined by how the data can be most efficiently summarized, and more importantly, why the inventory was conducted.

Page 3

Reporting Forms

The purpose of the emissions inventory is the primary consideration in deciding on a reporting format. An inventory developed only for research purposes can be presented in many forms. For example, a raw data listing, which basically presents the data compiled in the inventory, could consist of computer printouts of sources and emissions.

On the other hand, reports which are for use outside of your agency will usually be more formal than reports for internal use. External reports such as public information pamphlets and emission control program documents, require formatting which clearly presents summarized inventory data. These summary reports include information that has been aggregated and organized in some manner during the reporting process. For instance, a summary report of total toxic emissions from all degreasers in an area would involve totaling emission estimates stored in certain file records. A more formal summary report will convey the inventory information clearly and concisely to the document reader.

In addition to required reporting formats, a wide variety of tables and graphic displays can be used to present inventory data. Charts, tables, and graphs can quickly convey to the reader emission breakdowns by industries, geographical areas or source size. Emissions trends and the effects of control programs can also be tabulated or graphed.

Page 4

Specific Reporting Programs

In addition to summary reports, certain regulatory reporting programs require or encourage the submission of emissions data in a specific format. Some examples of programs that involve the reporting of emissions data to the EPA include:

Toxic Release Inventory Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act requires EPA and the States to annually collect data on releases and transfers of certain toxic chemicals from industrial facilities, and make the data available to the public in the Toxics Release Inventory. TRI is a publicly available database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industries. Each year, facilities that meet certain thresholds must report their releases and other waste management activities for listed toxic chemicals to EPA and to the state or tribal entity in whose jurisdiction the facility is located. Reports for each calendar year are due by July 1 of the following year. After completion of data entry and data quality assurance activities, EPA makes the data available to the public in printed reports, in a computer database, and through a variety of other information products.

National Emissions Inventory The National Emissions Inventory (NEI) is a comprehensive inventory covering all criteria pollutants and hazardous air pollutants for all areas of the United States. These data are used for air dispersion modeling, regional strategy development, regulation setting, air toxics risk assessment, and tracking trends in emissions over time. The database has evolved from the National Emissions Trends database and the National Toxics Inventory database.

EPA prepares this inventory with input from State, local and Tribal air agencies and encourages these agencies to provide emissions data for their areas to improve the reliability of the National Emissions Inventory. The format for reporting data to the NEI is the NEI Input Format (NIF). Data may also be reported using the XML schema for the NEI. All data reported for incorporation into the NEI must be reported through EPA's Central Data Exchange.

Page 5

Consolidated Emission Reporting Rule

Finally, no discussion of reporting of emissions inventory data would be complete without a discussion of the Consolidated Emissions Reporting Rule or CERR. The CERR was published in the Federal Register on June 10, 2002. The purpose of the CERR is to simplify reporting, offer options for data collection and exchange, and unify reporting dates for various categories of criteria pollutant emission inventories. The rule applies to State and local agencies and consolidates the emission reporting requirements found in various parts of the Clean Air Act. It is important to note, however, that the CERR does not require states to report air toxic emissions.

Page 6

Review Question

Which of the following emissions data reporting programs requires industrial facilities to submit data directly to EPA?

- a. Toxic Release Inventory
- b. National Emissions Inventory
- c. Consolidated Emissions Reporting Rule

Page 7

Summary

Now that you have completed this lesson, you should be able to:

- Identify the various forms for reporting emissions inventory data.
- Describe the Toxic Release Inventory.
- Describe the National Emissions Inventory.
- Describe the Consolidated Emission Reporting Rule.

Continue by selecting a lesson using the Menu, or, just go to the next lesson.